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## A WILLET STORM ON BATTLE FRONT

Has Temporarily Put a Stop to Military Operations in Belgium and France

### POSITIONS OF OPPOSING FORCES UNCHANGED

**Petrograd Reports That Germans are on Defensive Between the Pilica and the Upper Vistula—Also Reports Capture of More Than 20,000 Prisoners—United States Has Protested British Treatment of American Commerce—British Government, Fearing Raid by German Aviators, Has Warned People to Take to Cover Should the Sound of Firing be Heard.**

A violent storm has temporarily put a stop to military operations of an important nature along the western part of the battle front in Belgium and France. In this territory the positions of the opposing forces remain virtually the same as they have been for weeks past.

In the eastern arena the official reports indicate a similar condition of affairs so far as the military front of either side is concerned. Petrograd reports, however, that between the Pilica river and the upper Vistula the Germans are now on the defensive.

The Russians also report the capture of more than 20,000 prisoners, which reference was made in previous announcements. A Petrograd despatch by way of London says that all the important passes on the Carpathians are again in Russian hands.

The United States government has made strong representations to Great Britain, insisting upon an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet.

A long note has been forwarded to the British foreign secretary through Ambassador Page, covering the relations between the United States and Great Britain as affected by the British naval policy which is considered "highly objectionable" by the American government.

The British government through the naval and military authorities apparently fearing a raid over British towns by German aviators, has issued a warning to the people to take to cover should the sound of firing be heard.

### BRITISH TREATMENT OF AMERICAN COMMERCE

Strong Protest Cabled to Ambassador Page at London.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The United States government today dispatched a long note to Great Britain, insisting upon an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet. It gave warning that much feeling had been aroused in this country and that public criticism was general over unwarranted interference with the legitimate foreign trade of the United States.

The document, constituting the strongest representation on this subject made by the United States to any of the belligerents, was cabled to Ambassador Page to be presented formally to Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, this morning.

The note, which was signed by Secretary Bryan and finally during the

### CAUSE OF FIRE AT EAST CAMBRIDGE UNKNOWN.

Homeless Men and Women Sleeping on Ward Room Floors.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 28.—The cause of the fire which snuffed out the lives of four aged women inmates of the city almshouse and imperiled the lives of two hundred other unfortunate early today, probably will never be known. This was the substance of a statement tonight by the fire department, after reading a report of officials who had investigated the tragedy.

Suggestions that the blaze may have been started by a match, cigar or cigarette stub, or pipe ashes were made, the mayor said, but any possible evidence of the origin of the fire was swept away by the flames.

The old women and men made homeless by the fire slept tonight on mattresses laid on ward room floors.

### PARDON OF TWO LEADERS OF LAWRENCE TEXTILE STRIKE

Approved by Massachusetts State Board of Parole.

Boston, Dec. 28.—Petitions for the pardon of two the leaders in riots at Lawrence during the great textile strike three years ago have been approved by the state board of parole and will be considered by the executive council Wednesday, according to an announcement tonight. The men are Salvatore Bruno and Orlando Antonio, convicted of firing upon loyal employees of the Pacific mill. Each is serving a five to seven year sentence.

Schooner Blown 2,000 Miles Out of Course.

Boston, Dec. 28.—This four masted schooner Lewiston which left port three weeks ago for Bridgewater, N. H., arrived today at Mayaguez, Porto Rico, according to a cablegram received by the schooner's agents here. Captain Glenn reported that his vessel had been blown 2,000 miles off her course by westerly gales but was undamaged.

**Terre Haute's Mayor Gets Bail.**

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 28.—Donn M. Roberts, mayor of Terre Haute, who was placed in jail here Saturday under indictment for alleged conspiracy to corrupt the election of Nov. 3, 1914, was released today under \$10,000 bond. The bond was offered by a local company.

## Cabled Photographs

Russians Head Carpathian Passes.

London, Dec. 28, 2:28 a. m.—A Petrograd despatch to the Times says that military circles point out that all the important passages of the Carpathians are again in Russian hands and that those still held by the enemy afford them no advantage.

### Dividend of Bank of France.

Paris, Dec. 28, 4:30 p. m.—The Bank of France declared a dividend today for the second semester of the fiscal year, of 90 francs (\$15) net a share.

### MEXICAN POLITICAL SITUATION UNCERTAIN.

Brazilian Minister Tells of Lack of Harmony Among Chiefs.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Despatches from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City, dated there early today and received here tonight, described the political situation as full of uncertainty. He referred to the lack of harmony between the several chiefs, some of whom were advocating radical and extreme measures of government, but indicated that nothing alarming had developed and that good order was being preserved.

From its own agents also the state department was advised that friction existed between the Zapata and Gutierrez-Villa factions, based chiefly on the desire of the former to execute many of the officers who once served with the federal army. At present a decree issued by General Gutierrez, suspending all executions, is in effect. The Gutierrez-Villa element holds that the officers should be given a trial and be represented by counsel but the Zapata adherents are understood to be in favor of summary execution of those who served the Huerta or Carralanza regimes.

The American government is endeavoring to secure a general amnesty, and while no promises have been made that recognition will follow, the Mexican faction understands that unless a humanitarian course toward their opponents is pursued the recognition of the United States will be withheld.

The United States government has indicated clearly that it will look disfavor on continued executions and its remonstrance is believed to have been given responsibility for the Gutierrez decree.

### TWO DAY BATTLE IN VOGES MOUNTAINS

Along the Whole Front of the French and German Armies.

Basel, Switzerland, Dec. 28 (via Paris, 4:55 p. m.).—A battle lasting from December 24 until December 26 occurred along the whole front of the French and German armies in the Vosges mountains. The sound of the cannon firing was plainly heard in Switzerland.

French aeroplanes maneuvering over the town of Mulsheim, in Alsace, returned with sufficient information, it is said, to allow the French artillery to conduct an effective fire on the German positions.

### CIVIL POPULATION OF LONDON WARNED

To Keep Under Cover Upon Hearing the Sound of Firing.

London, Dec. 28, 7:55 p. m.—The London official bureau this evening made the following announcement:

"The naval and military authorities call the attention of persons using the streets to the danger from fragments of shells and from bullets from the guns used against hostile aircraft attempting a raid on London."

"The civil population are warned to keep under cover, preferably in basements, upon hearing the sound of firing by guns or of explosives."

### WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN CONSULS IN BELGIUM

Has Been Asked for by the German Government.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The German government has formally notified the state department that American consuls be withdrawn from the present at least.

### HONDURAS CONSUL GENERAL CHARGED WITH ARSON.

Had Been Under Surveillance of San Francisco Police.

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—Fernando Somoza Vivas, consul general here of Honduras, was arrested today on a charge of arson. He had been under surveillance by the police since last night, when firemen found that his burning house had been liberally sprinkled with oil and turpentine.

Bureau drawers in the bedroom were found filled with paper saturated in oil; carpets had been sprinkled with inflammables; holes had been cut through the ceiling and the floor being and streamers tied from the rafters to guide the flames.

Vivas was found partially clad on the sidewalk shortly after the firemen arrived. At police headquarters he asserted that his consular position made him immune from prosecution.

### COL. ROOSEVELT VISITS MUNICIPAL LODGING HOUSE.

Shook Hands With Many of the Men in Line.

New York, Dec. 28.—Colonel Theodore Roosevelt visited the municipal lodging house tonight. About 250 men were in line waiting to get supper tickets when he arrived in a large automobile. He shook hands with many of them, addressing some by name. He did not explain how he happened to know them. When he entered the dining room to sample the food being served, Colonel Roosevelt found 200 more of the city's homeless at supper.

### Chief Examiner of I. C. C.

Washington, Dec. 28.—James W. Carmalt today was appointed chief examiner of the Interstate Commerce Commission to succeed Ross D. Rynard, resigned. Mr. Carmalt has been connected with the commission for several years and recently was the confidential examiner attached to the staff of Chairman Harlan.

### President of M. I. T. Alumni.

Boston, Dec. 28.—Henry J. Horn of Brookline was elected president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Alumni association in the recent balloting by mail. It was announced tonight. John L. Maxson of St. Louis was chosen a vice president.

### Aches of Artist by Parcel Post.

Boston, Dec. 28.—The parcel post office today reported that the aches of Teijiro Hasegawa, a Japanese artist, to his former home near Tokyo, Japan. The package was accepted and started on its way after \$1.10 in stamps had been attached.

### Prisoner Must Like Jail.

Providence, R. I., Dec. 28.—His desire to be an end may be made plain by the county jailer Ray Farrell, a prisoner, to ask today that his release be postponed until after the entertainment. The court granted the request.

### Warden of Charlestown Prison.

Boston, Dec. 28.—Nathan D. Allen, who has been acting warden of the Charlestown state prison for the past two months, was appointed warden by Governor Walsh today. He succeeds General Benjamin F. Briggs, resigned. Mr. Allen was connected with the institution for the past twenty years, recently attracted public attention by the innovation of distributing meals gratis to every inmate of the institution.

## Lamar Grants Frank's Appeal at Sound Beach

FROM FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT FOR GEORGIA

### STAY OF EXECUTION

Case May be Remanded to District Court for Taking of Evidence—Entire Supreme Court Will Now Pass Upon Right to Seek Release.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Justice Lamar of the supreme court today granted an appeal from the refusal of the federal district court for northern Georgia to release on habeas corpus proceedings, Leo Frank, under death sentence for the murder of Mary Phagan, a 15 year old girl, in the electric chair.

Frank is sentenced to die on January 22, but Justice Lamar's action effects an indefinite stay of execution. Thirty days are given for filing the record of the proceedings in the lower court.

Immediately after that has been done, the state of Georgia may ask that the case be advanced for hearing and such suggestions are generally granted, although in the regular course the case would come up for a year and a half.

### Writ of Habeas Corpus.

The entire court will pass upon Frank's right to seek release from custody on a writ of habeas corpus on the ground that the trial court in Fulton county, Georgia, lost jurisdiction over him by its failure to have him present when the jury returned its verdict of guilty. Should the court decide that he was entitled to ask for the writ thus reversing Judge Newman's decision, the case would be remanded to the district court for the taking of evidence in support of the petition. Should it eventually be held that Frank must be released from custody, it is said a mooted question may arise as to the power of the state to indict and try him a second time.

### Second Time Fate Rested With Lamar.

This was the second time Frank's fate has rested in Justice Lamar's hands. After the Georgia supreme court had declined to set aside the verdict of conviction, Justice Lamar was asked to issue a writ of error for the supreme court to review the case. He declined on the ground that no federal question was presented, inasmuch as questions of procedure were for the states to decide. Judge Holmes and eventually the other members of the court, upon being petitioned, took the same ground. Application then was made in the Georgia federal court for Frank's release on a writ of habeas corpus. Judge Newman held that the condemned man was not entitled to a writ and refused to grant an appeal to the supreme court from his decision.

### Base of Justice Lamar's Decision.

Justice Lamar then was asked to set aside the verdict and issue the writ of error. In announcing his decision today, the justice said that he had found that several questions of federal law, the effect of which would be to set aside the verdict of the state court, existed in the case, giving rise to "probable cause" for the appeal.

These questions were whether the federal constitution requires an accused to be present when a verdict is returned against him in a state court, the effect of the accused not raising the question of his presence in a motion for a new trial, and the effect of the supreme court's own action in refusing to grant the writ of error in a case where an alleged jurisdictional question was presented when a verdict is returned at a time not authorized by the practice of the state where he trial took place.

### CREATION OF A TARIFF BOARD PROPOSED

In a Bill to Be Introduced by Representative Mann.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Creation of a tariff board, to be composed of one member appointed by the president, and four named respectively by the majority and minority of the finance and house ways and means committees is proposed in a bill which will be introduced tomorrow by Representative Mann, the republican house leader. The board will be empowered to investigate both in the United States and abroad.

### NEW YORK'S EXHIBIT AT LYONS EXPOSITION

To Be Sent to the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

New York, Dec. 28.—After escaping destruction by fire at Lyons, France, New York city's exhibit at the Lyons exposition has been returned safely to this city on the French steamship Cacqui and is now being prepared for shipment to San Francisco, where it will form a part of the New York exhibit at the Panama-Pacific exposition. At the Lyons exposition the exhibit was released early and sent back through the war-streets of Lyons. The day after its removal the British and American pavilions were swept by fire.

### Warden of Charlestown Prison.

Boston, Dec. 28.—Nathan D. Allen, who has been acting warden of the Charlestown state prison for the past two months, was appointed warden by Governor Walsh today. He succeeds General Benjamin F. Briggs, resigned. Mr. Allen was connected with the institution for the past twenty years, recently attracted public attention by the innovation of distributing meals gratis to every inmate of the institution.

### Injured by Explosion of Coal Gas.

Bristol, Conn., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Joseph Alberts was seriously injured at her home tonight by an explosion of coal gas in her kitchen range. She had just put coal on the fire when an explosion burst the front of the stove. She was struck by pieces of flying metal and her clothing caught fire. Members of the family extinguished the blaze. It is believed she will recover.

## Freight Wreck at Sound Beach

TRAFFIC HELD UP FOR SEVERAL HOURS

### Touched a Match to Gasoline—A Car Filled With Cotton Destroyed—Stamford Fire Department Called Out.

Stamford, Conn., Dec. 28.—Traffic on the main line of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad was interrupted for several hours late today by a freight wreck and fire near Sound Beach. A westbound freight jumped the tracks, when the air brakes broke and the engine and several cars, including a large tank car filled with gasoline. The tank was punctured and the gasoline scattered about.

### Fire Spread Rapidly.

Railroad officials say that a small boy started the blaze by touching a match to the gasoline. The fire spread rapidly and the local fire department was called out. A car filled with cotton was destroyed but the other cars were simply scorched. It was two hours before the blaze was controlled. Traffic in the electric cars was delayed for several hours.

### Trucks Completely Blocked.

The train was made up of 25 cars and was bound east, the first stop being scheduled for Bridgeport. One of the cars in the middle of the train was hung across two tracks, and completely blocked the track upon which the fast Boston express was approaching. Flagman Raymond Simmons, of New York, knew that the express was following the freight and he ran down the tracks with a red flag.

### Police Search for Small Boy.

The local police made a thorough search for the small boy who the railroad officials say started the blaze by touching a match to the gasoline, but without success. The fireman who saw the incident, was unable to give a very good description of the boy, the police say.

### MORTGAGE FOR \$100,000,000 ON LAKE SHORE ROAD

To Secure Two Issues of Gold Bonds of 1903 and 1905.

Toledo, O., Dec. 28.—A mortgage for \$100,000,000 to secure two issues of Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway company gold bonds of 1903 and 1905, respectively, was recorded in this county today. Each of the issues is in the sum of \$50,000,000.

### Property Mortgages Includes the Main Line and Four Branch Roads, Also Leasehold Rights to Five Others, Among Which are the Branches from Toledo to Palmyra, Mich., Belonging to the Erie and Kalamazoo Railroad Company, and Another of the Detroit, Monroe and Erie Railroad Company's Lines.

### BANDIT KILLED BY CIVIL WAR VETERAN.

Wounded Another When They Attacked Him in Store.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 28.—One bandit was killed and another shot and seriously wounded here today by Leonard C. Humphrey, a 70 year old Civil War veteran. The pair were loitering in his store while he was otherwise alone and he took up his revolver.

### MUTUALIZATION OF THE METROPOLITAN LIFE

Endorsed by Policyholders at a Meeting Held in New York.

New York, Dec. 28.—Mutualization of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company was endorsed by the policyholders at a meeting held here today. About 1,800 men met to discuss the plan, while 5,000 gave their approval. Most of the votes were by proxy. Mutualization already has been approved by the stockholders and directors.

### CORPS OF ENGINEERS, N. Y. N. G. DISBANDED.

In Accord With Instructions Issued by War Department.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Brigadier General Henry D. Hamilton, adjutant general of the state national guard, today issued a statement in which he declared that the disbandment of the 22d regiment, corps of engineers, was ordered to comply with instructions issued by the war department. Adjutant General Hamilton says that no criticism of the regiment as infantry is implied.

### OBITUARY.

Elizabeth N. J. Dec. 28.—Leonard E. Ware, New York broker and former tennis champion, died of pneumonia at his home here today after an illness lasting less than a week.

### Will of Congressman Payne.

Auburn, N. Y., Dec. 28.—The will of the late Seneca Eliza Payne, representative in congress, which was attested to probate today, an estate comprising real and personal property of the value of \$75,000 is left to his three sisters and his son, William K. Payne. Property in Auburn and the sum of \$20,000 are left to the sisters and the residue to the son.

## Condensed Telegrams

\*Boley, Okla., is the largest negro city in the United States.

Charles Blanchette, of Aurora, Mich., shot a black fox whose skin is valued at \$300.

Tarrytown, N. Y., went dry when the automatic check valve at the reservoir froze.

The Belgian Relief Fund being collected in New York has reached the total of \$727,853.

William Thaw and Weston Hall, Americans, were appointed to the French Aviation Corps.

The fifth detachment of Newfoundland naval reservists, comprising 160 men, arrived in England.

The American Red Cross has issued an appeal for funds for aid of the starving thousands in Mexico.

Assemblyman-elect Charles W. Ostrom of Hoboken announces he will introduce a bill taxing all bachelors.

A large fat opossum was sent to Colonel Roosevelt for a New Year gift by Frank Niemak, of Sayville, L. I.

California's Relief Ship Camino, carrying a cargo of food for the Belgians, is now passing through the Panama Canal.

The number of marriage licenses issued in Chicago so far in 1914 shows decrease of 91% below the total of last year.

Two negroes were beaten to death and several white men were shot and wounded during race rioting at Fairplay, S. C.

Miss Enid Bliss of New York, a nurse serving with the American Red Cross in Germany died of appendicitis in Munich.

Nicholas Bawlf, owner of two elevator companies and known as the oat king of Canada, was found dead in his bed at Winnipeg.

The American consul-general at Berlin has arranged for American ships to carry German goods to Germany in return for German drugs.

Two prisoners in the United States State Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., escaped from the tuberculosis camp, where they were confined.

The First National Bank of Islip, L. I., closed its doors after a run brought about by the disappearance of H. C. Haft, cashier, who later returned.

The federal court has ordered payment of the semi-annual bond interest of the Clover Leaf Railroad, which recently went into the hands of a receiver.

The next state ship from Belgium relief which will arrive from New York will be the Hannah, now taking aboard a Kansas cargo and expected to clear Friday.

An investigation was begun yesterday by Coroner Mix of the fire on Christmas Eve in New Haven in which Miss Corrie Pollard of Waterbury lost her life.

The locomotive and repair shops on the New Haven system resumed yesterday, one week in advance of the time to which the recent shutdown was fixed.

Mrs. N. E. Chuck of New Brighton, Pa., was shot and seriously injured by her husband, when she visited him in hospital there, where he is dying of tuberculosis.

Mrs. Frank W. Miller, wife of the Bridgeport banker, who was injured in an automobile accident Saturday afternoon, is resting comfortably at the Norwalk hospital.

Six persons were hurt when a coach on a Kalamazoo, Lake Shore & Chicago passenger train left the tracks after a collision with a freight train near Hartford, Mich.

William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, left Washington to act as the representative of President Wilson at the opening of the exposition at San Diego, January 1.

For injuries inflicted on his wife by shooting, Robert J. Coe, was sentenced in the superior court at New Haven, to not less than eight nor more than 15 years in state prison.

Representative Kahn, of California, said that Congressmen will shun the "dry" warships chartered to take the Congressmen through the Panama Canal to the San Francisco Exposition.

## Gov't to Issue a Daily Paper

TO BE DEVOTED TO COMMERCIAL NEWS

### Branch Offices Located at New York, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, Atlanta and New Orleans—To Ask Business Men.

Washington, Dec. 28.—To promote the foreign commerce of the United States, the government will issue a newspaper business Jan. 2 next, when the first issue of The Daily Commercial Report is to be turned out by the department. The paper will be carried all important commercial cablegrams received from the attaches at the various embassies abroad and from consuls throughout the world. It also will contain brief abstracts of the findings of investigators of the department in many lines of American enterprise and will present to the business world each day the gist of the business of the department of commerce for the preceding day.

### Supplies Consular Reports.

The plan for a live, up-to-the-hour commercial daily was worked out by Dr. E. E. Pratt, chief of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. The new publication will take the place of the daily consular report now issued, and hereafter the long mail reports from American consuls reviewing business conditions in the various foreign countries will be published as supplements to the commercial report.

### Of Value to the Business World.

"These offices have become a factor in American business life," he said. "They have proven themselves of great value to the business world in furnishing closer relations with the agencies of the federal government whose business it is to aid American enterprises seeking foothold abroad. Through their information of great value to merchants and manufacturers is quickly obtainable, and they aid the bureau in its efforts to keep in touch with American business needs."

### CHANGE IN THE WESTINGHOUSE COMPANIES

Executors of Estate to Sell Machine Co. to the Electric Co.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 28.—Executors of the estate of the late George Westinghouse, who died last week, announced that they had contracted to sell the machine in the Westinghouse Machine company to the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company on the basis of three shares of electric stock. Mr. Westinghouse controlled the machine company, a \$10,000,000 corporation, but the other stockholders will be allowed to share in the sale agreement if they exercise the right before Jan. 26 next.

### PRICES OF WHEAT CONTINUE TO SOAR

Blue Stem for February Delivery Sold at \$1.32 a Bushel.

Portland, Oregon, Dec. 28.—Today saw the price of wheat prices which have prevailed on the Pacific coast exchange in the last few weeks surpassed when 5,000 bushels of blue stem wheat for February delivery sold at \$1.32 a bushel, three cents above the last previous sales. Bids for other grades of futures were from one-half to a cent higher than Saturday. Exportation of wheat and flour to Europe continues on a large scale.

### PASSENGER RATES ON BOSTON AND MAINE

Increase Will Not Become Operative Before Feb. 1.

Boston, Dec. 28.—Proposed increases in passenger rates on the Boston and Maine railroad, which have been operative before February 1 as the result of an order issued by the public service commission today. The railroad had requested that the new rates should go into effect January 1, but the commission decided that another public hearing should be held and set January 6 as the date for it.

### Movements of Steamships.

Kinsale, Dec. 28.—Passed, steamer Transylvania, New York for Liverpool.

Havre, Dec. 28.—Arrived, steamer Rochambeau, New York. Sailed, 26th, steamer Niagara, New York.

Cadiz, Dec. 28.—Arrived, steamer Antonio Lopez, New York.

Genoa, Dec. 28.—Arrived, steamers Europa, New York; 24th, America, New York.

### Seven thousand employees in the mill of the Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Co. at Yonkers are out of work during the holidays on account of the closing of the plant for the annual inventory. The mills will reopen January 1.

### Large quantities of heroin and other drugs were found by detectives who searched the rooms of Alfred Birol at No. 220 North Sixth Street, Williamsburg, Brooklyn and Bernard Webber are said to have sold drugs extensively among school children in the neighborhood.

### Governor-elect Whitman of New York announced the selection of William Hayward, formerly secretary of the Republican National Committee, and one of Mr. Whitman's assistants in the district attorney's office, as counsel to the Governor. The appointment pays \$5,000 a year.